



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

JAN 29 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION,  
TECHNOLOGY, AND LOGISTICS

SUBJECT: Advisory Committee Review

I appreciate your personal attention in re-examining your current advisory committee requirements, your support of the new rules governing advisory committees, and your efforts to reshape how we use our committees to optimize and preserve their value as critical advisory forums.

The Defense Science Board (DSB) exceeds membership limitations and tenure, at both the parent and subcommittee levels. I know about the importance of the DSB's work and the limited availability of certain skills and expertise available to the DSB and its subcommittees. Based upon this and the critical challenges facing the Department over the next decade, I authorize the DSB to temporarily exceed current membership limitations of 20 parent and 15 subcommittee members. However, as future appointments and renewals are submitted, they should be consistent with a deliberate plan to significantly drive down the size of this Board and its subcommittees to the Department of Defense (DoD) target of no more than 20 members at the parent level and 15 at the subcommittee level by the end of FY 2014. I will continue to consider your membership requests for the DSB Summer Studies, but, by the end of FY 2014, I expect these requirements to be reduced to a level that corresponds to the DSB's new parent membership.

The Threat Reduction Advisory Committee is authorized to temporarily increase its membership to no more than 21 members, but, subsequently, it will be reduced to 20 by the end of FY 2015. Based upon your assessment, the DoD will suspend its support for the Veterans' Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction no later than December 31, 2014.

On a case-by-case basis, I will consider requests to deviate from the rules concerning membership limitations, at both the parent and subcommittee levels, and membership tenure. Requests should be limited to key strategic issues facing the DoD where you are unable to obtain the critical skills or expertise elsewhere.



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